

REMARKS

Claims 12-22 are pending in this application. No claim amendments have been made in response to the instant Office Action.

DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTIONS


Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejections of claims (1) 12-18 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6 of U.S. Patent No. 6,710, 843 ("Choo") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,426,522 ("Takahara"); and (2) 19-22 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 7-11 of Choo.

A terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321(c) is being filed herewith to overcome the double patenting rejection. The filing of a Terminal Disclaimer is not intended to be, nor should it be construed as an admission as to the merits of the rejection.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the double patenting rejections be withdrawn.

An early and favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner may telephone Applicants' Attorney to reach a prompt disposition of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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